Third country imports

1749. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the goods from a third country are being pushed into India after being shown as coming from Thailand or Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner Government plan to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) No third country import under India-Thailand Early Harvest Scheme has been reported. Representations have been received from the industry alleging third country imports of pepper under India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement. Representations have also been receive on import of some other items like copper, tiles on which value addition norms are not being met by Sri Lanka.

(c) During the 3rd Commerce Secretary level talks between India and Sri Lanka, held in August, 2004, the Indian side expressed its concern over such incidents. Both sides agreed to establish a monitoring mechanism to prevent circumvention of the Rules of Origin. The imports of pepper are also being monitored by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade as one of the sensitive items.

Misuse of Export Incentive Schemes

1750. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of exporters have cheated Government through bogus exports by misusing various export incentive schemes;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which action has been taken and the names of those under probe at present; and